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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, July 27, 2001

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, ex rel.

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

CASE NO. PUE000550

Ex Parte: In the matter concerning the application of Appalachian Power Company d/b/a American Electric Power-Virginia for approval of a plan to transfer functional and operational control of certain transmission facilities to a Regional Transmission Entity

and

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, ex rel.

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

CASE NO. PUE000551

Ex Parte: In the matter concerning the application of Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Virginia Power for approval of a plan to transfer functional and operational control of certain transmission facilities to a Regional Transmission Entity

ORDER GRANTING SUSPENSION

In a motion filed July 26, 2001, the Staff of the State Corporation Commission, with the concurrence of Virginia Electric and Power Company ("Dominion Virginia Power") and American Electric Power-Virginia ("AEP-VA"), requested the temporary suspension of the procedural schedule herein. The

certificate of service accompanying the motion indicates that it was served on all interested parties by telefax on July 26, 2001, also. At our request, Staff counsel has advised that all parties served have responded either specifically concurring in the requested suspension or registering no objection to it.

The motion recites that anticipated filings by Dominion Virginia Power and AEP-VA to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in mid-August are expected to have significant impact upon issues that would be considered at the initial hearing of this matter, presently scheduled for Monday, July 30, 2001. As such, the Staff and applicants concluded that, for reasons of conservation of legal and regulatory resources, the hearing should be convened only to receive testimony from any public witness who might appear, and the evidentiary portion of the hearing should be rescheduled for a time following receipt and analysis of the federal filings.

NOW THE COMMISSION, having considered the motion and being advised that no interested party has objections to the relief requested therein, is of the opinion that the motion should be, and hereby is, GRANTED. Accordingly, the procedural schedule established by prior order is suspended, with the exception that the hearing scheduled for Monday, July 30, 2001, will be convened to receive any public witness testimony offered.